

Preliminary Planning Discussion for Stream Restoration in Point of Rocks

Thursday, October 25, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Carroll Manor Fire Company Point of Rocks Station #28

MINUTES

- I. Shannon Moore conducted introductions of the County staff in attendance and presented the objective of the meeting – to learn what the community concerns are so that we can purposefully develop a proper scope of work when investigating potential solutions for drainage problems in the area.
 - a. Frederick County Representatives:
 - i. Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources, Community Development Division:
Shannon Moore, Manager
Darlene Bucciero, Project Manager IV
Sabrina Harder, Green Homes Program Coordinator
 - ii. Division of Parks & Recreation:
Paul Dial, Director
 - b. Community Members – A community contact list was compiled by Sabrina Harder from the meeting's sign-in sheet. Additional community members interested in receiving updates about the project can be added to the list by contacting Sabrina at sharder@FrederickCountyMD.gov or 301-600-7414.
- II. Shannon Moore reviewed the County-prepared map of the drainage areas (Appendix A).
 - a. The top left is forested but it is developed to the East with residential properties. There is a county park within the drainage area, as well as a fire station and library. Additionally, parts of the drainage area are very steep.
- III. There were several concerns raised. According to members of the community and staff:
 - a. Per Paul Dial, the stream is impacting county Park assets such as the trail and bridge. Parks also owns the stormwater management pond that is instream, and the pond captures debris and fallen trees, which poses a maintenance problem. The intake pipe on the pond was recently repaired.
 - b. Per Shannon Moore, Frederick County Highway Operations conducted a culvert repair to stop the damming of water and subsequent flooding across Ballenger Creek Pike.
 - c. The stream that runs through this neighborhood used to be a babbling brook, now no water runs through it unless it rains and then it becomes a "river" of such a significant size that "you could kayak in it".
 - d. The subdivision development that was started and not finished has contributed to a significant amount of erosion and sediment into the stream.



- e. Problems are occurring at the beginning of Canal Run, behind water tower. Hobbits Glen Road is sinking. Brookshire is picking up drainage from Road.
- f. Property owners are concerned about losing property and reduced property value.
- g. The banks of the stream have eroded into the back yards of the property owners reducing the size their property.

There was a suggestion to include elevations and topography on the map.

Sabrina Harder suggested that community members write specific problems on post-it notes and add them to the map in the appropriate location. There were seven post-it notes placed on the map. The County will prepare a map with these concerns and add to the map and post it to the website for review by the community.

IV. Overview of County Process:

- a. Shannon Moore discussed the County process and her intent to propose an assessment/study done called the Point of Rocks Neighborhood Stormwater Master Plan. This item is being proposed for the County Government's Capital Improvement Plan for the next fiscal year, FY'14, which begins July 2013. There was concern by the community that this date is too far in the future. It was explained by Shannon that funding for this project is not a guarantee and that the County's budget process works in this manner.
- b. The Community asked how to express its concerns about drainage and support for the project. Shannon Moore suggested that letters to the Board of County Commissioners from citizens could be submitted. Sabrina Harder is available to discuss drainage issues with citizens and collect their concerns.
- c. Currently, the timeline is to submit a Capital Improvement Program funding request for the Master Plan. The funding requests will be submitted to the County Budget Office in early November 2012.
- d. The Master Plan, if approved, would identify sources of runoff and an evaluation of potential solutions to the flooding problem. The County would determine if it wanted to propose any of the candidate projects, such as stream restoration or stormwater retrofits, for future rounds of the Capital Improvement Program.
- e. As problems likely include drainage from residential areas, Sabrina Harder discussed the Frederick County Green Leader Challenge. This challenge includes small-scale projects on residential property to provide source control for stormwater runoff.

- V. Sabrina Harder discussed that the County would prepare a webpage to offer information on this issue as it develops. Sabrina will also be the point of contact for any further concerns from the community and requested that any pictures of the drainage problems and/or letters of support be sent to her so she could ensure they reach the appropriate people at the County.

**For more information, contact Sabrina Harder, Green Homes Program Coordinator
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Appendix A: Drainage Area Map

